Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1707
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INFO CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON ENG
ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AB GER
USNMR SHAPE BE

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING, MAY 18, 1978:

AGENDA ITEM V B, (INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL AREA

COMMUNICATIONS)

REF: C-M(78)37(REVISED)

LUNS INTRODUCED THIS ITEM BY MENTIONING SECRETARY BROWN'S INTERVENTION AT THE SPRING 1977 DPC MINISTERIAL AND SUMMARIZING EVENTS LEADING TO THE REPORT (REF) BEFORE THE DEFENSE MINISTERS. HE REFERRED TO POINTS MADE BY AMBASSADOR BENNETT WHEN THE NAC PERM REPS CONSIDERED THE REPORT; I.E., US DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE OUTCOME AND US URGING THAT ALLIES RECONSIDER PROGRAM SCHEDULES, MAKING EVERY FEASIBLE EFFORT TO GIVE PRIORITY TO INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC DIGI-

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TAL SYSTEMS AND PROVISION OF INTERFACE DEVICES. LUNS ALSO REFERRED TO THE TACTICAL TRUNK PROGRAM IN THE LTDP, POINTING OUT THAT IT CALLS FOR ALL ALLIES TO FIELD AUTOMATIC DIGITAL SYSTEMS BY 1985. HE SAID THAT THIS REQUIREMENT IS MORE STRINGENT THAN THAT POSED BY THE REFERENCED REPORT AND IS MORE IN LINE WITH THE US DESIRES. HE ASKED DEFENSE MINISTERS TO NOTE THE CNAD REPORT (AT REFERENCE) AND THE

EARLIER NAC ACTION ON IT AND TO AGREE THAT THIS REPORT SHOULD BE TAKEN IN ACCOUNT IN FOLLOW-THROUGH ACTION ON THE LTDP. THE MINISTERS AGREED TO THE PROPOSED ACTIONS WITHOUT COMMENT. BENNETT

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